

## Message Text

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61-S

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 PRS-01 /058 W

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O R 131806Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1362

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1745

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJ: CSCE POLICY: INVITATION TO FINNISH PRESIDENT TO OPEN FIRST  
SESSION OF STAGE III

REF: GENEVA 1692 NOTAL

1. DURING COORDINATING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF STAGE III  
ARRANGMENTS (FULL REPORT BY SEPTTEL), SOVIET REP NOTED THAT  
HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS INDICATE CHAIRMAN OF INAUGURAL  
SESSION SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY HOST COUNTRY, AND SUGGESTED  
THAT IN THIS CASE CHAIRMAN SHOULD THEREFORE BE PRESIDENT  
KEKKONEN OF FINLAND. MANY OTHERS, INCLUDING SEVERAL NATO  
DELEGATIONS, CONCURRED, BUT FRANCE STATED CAVEAT THAT A  
DECISION ON THIS POINT SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE EVENTUAL DECISION  
ON LEVEL OF STAGE III.

2. IT WAS MOVED THAT DECISION ON THIS QUESTION BE TAKEN  
IMMEDIATELY, AND CHAIRMAN, NOTING THERE HAD BEEN NO OBJECTIONS,  
ASKED IF THERE WAS CONSENSUS ON THIS POINT. SINCE WE HAD NO  
INSTRUCTIONS, BUT DID NOT WISH TO APPEAR OPENLY TO BLOCK  
A CONFERENCE DECISION ON A QUESTION WHICH IS OF CONSIDERABLE  
SIGNIFICANCE TO FINNS, WE ASKED FINNISH DEL HEAD ILONIEMI  
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PRIVATELY IF HE COULD DEFER FORMAL DECISION. ILONIEMI DID

SO GRACEFULLY, AND WE EXPRESSED OUR APPRECIATION TO HIM AFTER MEETING.

3. THIS TOPIC LIKELY TO COME UP AGAIN AT NEXT MEETING ON STAGE III ARRANGEMENTS MARCH 18 AND WE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO EXPRESS OUR CONCURRENCE IN CONFERENCE DECISION THAT INAUGURAL SESSION OF STAGE III SHOULD BE CHAIRED BY KEKKONEN, WITH PROVISIO THAT THIS WILL NOT PREJUDICE EVENTUAL DECISION ON LEVEL OF STAGE III.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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